

**To:** Russo, Rebecca[Russo.Rebecca@epa.gov]  
**From:** Jenkins, Laura Flynn  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 5:09:22 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results  
R8 All Hands Sampling 13Aug15.docx

Here's a draft:

### **Draft All Hands Memo RE 8/12 Sampling Results**

In our effort to keep all Region 8 personnel informed on the latest information related to the Gold King Mine release response, I want to share updated information on sampling along the Animas River.

Water quality samples were collected beginning Aug. 5, 2015, to assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado. Samples were taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury.

Analysis now shows that water quality for the Animas River from the Silverton, Colo. area to the Durango municipal water intake has returned to pre-event water quality levels. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 5 to Aug. 9, 2015.

EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in Colorado to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. EPA plans to continue to monitor, analyze and share data for downstream river segments as it becomes available.

The data tables can be found on our website:

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/epa-statement-colorado-data-gold-king-mine-release>

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine>

In addition, EPA has established a toll-free number (844-607-9700) for residents in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Arizona, and the Navajo Nation who have been impacted by the Gold King Mine release. This allows them to provide their contact information and be called back with information. The number is available for people to speak to someone in English, Spanish, and Navajo.

Laura Jenkins

Media Officer

USEPA-Region 8

1595 Wynkoop St.

Mailcode: 8-OC

Denver, CO 80202

Landline: 303-312-6256

Cell: 202-360-8453

Fax: 303-312-6961

**From:** Russo, Rebecca

**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 10:42 AM

**To:** Jenkins, Laura Flynn

**Subject:** FW: Water Quality Sample Results

Would you mind drafting something up and we'll try to get it out? Thanks.

Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

Office: 303-312-6757

Cell: 303-204-1930

**From:** Russo, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 7:33 AM  
**To:** Thomas, Deb  
**Cc:** Jenkins, Laura Flynn  
**Subject:** Fwd: Water Quality Sample Results

Hi Deb,

This was great news. I recommend we share as a mass mailer this morning. Thoughts?

Rebecca

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Russo, Rebecca" <[Russo.Rebecca@epa.gov](mailto:Russo.Rebecca@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 12, 2015 at 11:59:07 PM MDT  
**Subject:** Water Quality Sample Results

Hi all,

Please find below an update on water quality samples for August 12, 2015.

To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado, water quality samples were collected at numerous intervals beginning on Aug. 5, 2015. Samples were taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury.

Analysis now shows that water quality for the Animas River from the Silverton, Colo. area to the Durango municipal water intake has returned to pre-event water quality levels. These

results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 5 to Aug. 9, 2015.

EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in Colorado to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. EPA plans to continue to monitor, analyze and share data for downstream river segments as it becomes available.

The data tables can be found on our website:

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/epa-statement-colorado-data-gold-king-mine-release>

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine>

Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

Office: 303-312-6757

Cell: 303-204-1930